News Release
Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

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McGuinty Government Awards Major Highway 69 Contract

Project Is Final Link In Four Laning To Estaire

SUDBURY – The Ontario government is investing more than $43 million in the final major grading contract for the four-laning of Highway 69 from Sudbury through Estaire, Northern Development and Mines Minister Rick Bartolucci announced today.

"Our government is on the side of northerners. That's why the expansion of the Highway 69 corridor south of Sudbury is part of our commitment to invest $1.8 billion over five years to ensure that northern highways are safe and efficient," said Bartolucci. "With this and other projects already underway or completed, the entire 20-kilometre length of Highway 69 from Sudbury through to Estaire will be expanded."

This contract involves construction of more than four kilometres of four-lane highway north of Estaire to Highway 537. Work includes the construction of seven new bridges: two at Makynen Road, two over the Wanapitei River, two railroad overhead structures and an underpass at Old Highway 537. The contract tender in the amount of $43.4 million was awarded to Carillion Canada Inc. of Etobicoke.

Construction is expected to begin in the winter of 2007 and is scheduled to be completed by December 2008. This is the middle, and third, of three contracts awarded along this corridor in fiscal 06-07. The first, northerly contract is underway from Sudbury to Highway 537. The second and most southerly contract involves the bypass of Estaire and is also under construction.

The commitment to expanding northern highways like Highway 69 was set out in ReNew Ontario, the province's five-year strategic infrastructure investment plan that will help prepare for future growth.

The Ontario government is renewing and expanding vital infrastructure like Highways 69 as part of its Northern Prosperity Plan. The plan is founded on four key pillars including: Strengthening the North and its Communities; Listening to and Serving Northerners Better; Competing Globally; and Providing Opportunities for All.

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